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PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING, held at the Society's Apartments, William-street, Kilkenny, on Wednesday, October 2, 1861,

BARRY DELANY, ESQ., M. D., in the Chair.

The following new Members were elected :—

Captain E. Maguire, 1st Royals ; and the Rev. Dr. Graham, 11, Windsor-terrace, Kingstown: proposed by the Rev. G. H. Reade.

The Right Hon. Lord Downes ; and John Otway Cuffe, Esq., Missenden House, Bucks : proposed by the Rev. James Graves.

Richard Magee, Esq., Assistant Surgeon, Kilkenny Fusiliers : proposed by Barry Delany, Esq., M. D.

Mr. L. O'Brien, Mullinahone ; and J. G. Murphy, Esq., Green-ridge, Kilkenny: proposed by Mr. Prim.

S. Henry Hobart, Esq., M. D., Cork : proposed by T. W. Belcher, Esq., M. D.

The Treasurer's account for the year 1860 was laid before the Members by the Auditors, as follows :—

CHARGE.

		£	s.	d.
1860.				
Jan. 1.	To balance in Treasurer's hands (see p. 190, <i>supra</i>),	87	16	2½
Dec. 31.	To Members' Subscriptions,	209	8	0
	„ Life Compositions,	15	0	0
	„ Subscriptions to “Annuary,”	2	0	0
	„ Sale of “Journal,” &c., to Members, . . .	1	16	0
		£316	0	2½

DISCHARGE.

		£	s.	d.
1860.				
Dec. 31.	By postages of "Journal,"	12	10	0
	„ „ circulars and correspondence, . .	6	0	0
	„ Illustrations of "Journal,"	28	14	0
	„ Printing, paper, and binding of "Annuary," Part II.,	23	9	3
	„ Printing, paper, and binding of "Journal," in- cluding Parts for March, July, September, and November, 1859, ¹ and January and March, 1860,	138	10	4
	„ General printing and stationery,	15	11	4
	„ Gratuity to roomkeeper,	0	10	0
	„ Indexing Vol. II.,	3	0	0
	„ Commission to agents,	0	8	8
	„ Petty cash account, including fittings of new Museum,	5	11	2
	„ Carriage of parcels,	0	12	11
	„ Purchase of books,	0	1	0
	„ Works, rent, and caretaker, Jerpoint Abbey, .	18	0	0
	„ Rent of Museum,	14	0	0
	„ Balance in Treasurer's hands,	49	1	6½
		<hr/>		
		£316	0	2½

We have examined this Account, and find that there is a balance of £49 1s. 6½d. in the hands of the Treasurer.

J. G. ROBERTSON, }
P. A. AYLWARD, } Auditors.

October 2, 1861.

The following presentations were received, and thanks voted to the donors :—

By the Publisher : "The Builder," Nos. 961–972, inclusive.

By the Rev. B. H. Blacker : "A Translation of the Charter and Statutes of Trinity College, Dublin, &c." Dublin: 1749.

By the Kent Archæological Society : "Archæologia Cantiana," Vol. III.

By the Cambridge Antiquarian Society : "Report and Communications," No. 9.

By the Cambrian Archæological Association : "Archæologia Cambrensis," third series, Nos. 27 and 28 ; also the "Supplemental Volume for 1861," Part I.

By the Publisher : "The Gentleman's Magazine," for August and September, 1861.

¹ By an oversight in the printing of the accounts for 1859, at p. 190, *supra*, credit was taken for the printing, &c., of the January and May parts of 1860, in place of the

corresponding parts of 1859. The printing of the March part of 1859 was not paid for until 1860.

By the Cambrian Institute: "The Cambrian Journal," for June, 1861.

By the Numismatic Society: "The Numismatic Chronicle," new series, No. 2.

By John Otway Cuffe, Esq.: "Notices of Sepulchral Monuments in English Churches," by the Rev. W. H. Kelke, A. B.

By Mr. Michael White, Dunbel: a silver penny of Edward I., in good preservation, found in one of the raths at Dunbel, bearing on the obverse the king's head in a triangle, with the legend—"EDW. R. ANGL. D. H. [. . . .]" On the reverse, a cross between pellets, and "CIVITAS DUBLINIE."

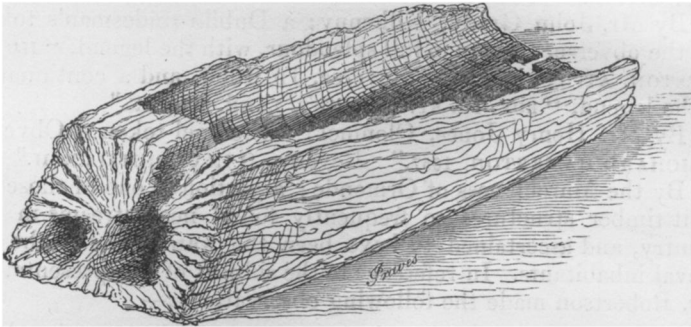
By Mr. John Grady, Kilkenny: a Dublin tradesman's token. On the obverse, the sun in full splendour, with the legend, "HUGH. PRESTON. AT. YH. BLACK." Reverse, 1D. 1666, and a continuation of the legend, "BOY. IN. ST. GEORGE'S. LANE. DUBLIN."

By Mr. Henry Jones, Clonmel: a Clonmel token. Obverse, "RICHARD HAMERTON. 1657." Reverse, "IN CLONMEL. R. H."

By the Marchioness of Ormonde: a portion of one of those ancient timber structures so frequently found near streams in this country, and ascertained to have been the water-mills of the primæval inhabitants. In reference to the subject of this presentation, Mr. Robertson made the following observations:—

"The members present, no doubt, are aware of the extensive alterations and improvements now in progress at Kilkenny Castle. Amongst other works, a large pond has been this summer formed in the angle of the lawn adjoining the well, generally called 'The Seven Springs,' which both supplies water and works machinery to raise the former to a tank on the top of the castle. It was whilst excavating the basin of this pond that the remains now brought under your notice were discovered. They appear to have formed portions of an ancient mill, and consist of a very large trough, three beams, and three slabs of oak. The trough, being the most important part, and that on which the greatest labour was bestowed, is the only portion which has been placed in the Society's Museum. The timber is quite black, being now what is known as 'bog oak.' A great portion of the outside is decayed, and may be broken off in small pieces; the heart is, however, quite sound. The trough is 8 ft. long at the bottom, and 7 ft. 4 in. long at the top; in width, 3 ft. 2 in. at one end, and 2 ft. 4 in. at the other; depth, 1 ft. 2 in. at the wide end, and 1 ft. 10 in. at the small. It is excavated to a depth of 1 ft. 6 in. at the smaller end, from which the water fell on the wheel by two openings, of which the dimensions respectively are, 6 inches by 8 inches, and 9 inches by 12 inches. The thickness of the timber through which these openings are made is about one foot. The other extremity is open; and in the bottom near this end there is an orifice inside, 5 inches by 4 inches. Two beams were 11 feet long by 14 inches, by 9 inches, with mortise-holes cut in them, 12 inches long by 6 inches wide, and 6 inches deep. One beam was 7 feet long by 15 inches, by 6 inches. The longest of the three slabs was 7 feet by 12 inches, by 3 inches. These

slabs were rather feather-edged, and had mortise-holes in them. I am informed by the workmen that the trough was found about five feet beneath the surface; the large beams under the ends of it, and the planks, forming with the beams a sort of frame for supporting the trough—perhaps the bottom of a wooden tank, in which the water that worked the mill was ponded. The workmen also state that the mould in which the timbers were was black bog-earth, although the surrounding soil was gravelly. I may direct attention to the great size of the tree which yielded a square piece of timber of the dimensions of the trough. The subjoined engraving represents this piece of primæval carpenter-work.”



Mr. Robertson exhibited a Waterford penny of Edward I., and a bronze javelin-head, both purchased in Scotland.

The Rev. Charles Vignoles, Rector of Clonmacnoise, with reference to a paragraph going the round of the press, and which originated with a correspondent of *Saunders' News-Letter*, describing the recent alleged discovery of a cavern near Clonmacnoise, intimated to the Society that, from inquiry on the spot, he had no hesitation in affirming it to be a pure fiction. He believed there was no doubt that a gold “crown” and “collar” had been found somewhere in that country; but of the particulars of the discovery nothing was known with certainty. The account of the cave, with its “ten elaborately ornamented octagonal slabs, covered with Ogham inscriptions,” obviously owed its origin to the prolific imagination of the newspaper correspondent.

The Rev. G. H. Reade sent a rubbing of the sculptured upper surface of the top stone of a quern, found in a bog in the county Fermanagh, and now in Mr. Reade's collection. The ornament consisted of a cross in relief.

Mr. M. E. Conway made the following communication:—

“In the section of Dr. Wilde's Catalogue brought under the notice of the Society by you, an inquiry is suggested as to whether ‘anything approaching to the single-piece shoe [therein described] is worn in the present day.’ From the remarks which follow, it would seem that the

'Pampooseens' worn in the Arran Islands are the only articles of the kind which have come to Dr. Wilde's knowledge. Deeming it may interest the members to receive information on the subject, I write to state that shoes exactly similar are still worn in the Shetland Islands. I visited that remote group last September, and observed the very common wearing of 'Ravelins,' as the single-piece shoes are called there. These 'Ravelins' are accurately represented, or, more properly, they bear an accurate resemblance to the cut, Fig. 181, No. 6, given at p. 268, *supra*."

The Very Rev. the Dean of Leighlin sent the following observations:—

"Whilst lately paying a visit on the coast of Durham, my attention was drawn to some excavations which had been made some years ago, and noticed at the time in the locality. In sinking for a foundation for a house in Wellsfield, N. E. of the ancient church of St. Hilda, Hartlepool, an old burial-ground was opened, and numerous male and female skeletons were found, with their heads resting upon flat stones, varying from 4 to 5 in. square—a few bearing the sign of the cross, with inscriptions.

"Now, I am anxious to know if we have any similar examples.

"The stones were of limestone, and the characters I conceived to be Runic. In this opinion, I find, I am confirmed by others who saw them at the time of the discovery; and I was led to the supposition that they were monumental inscriptions to the Danes. An objection, however, meets this theory; for the Danish custom of sepulture was different from the mode in which it appears the bodies were buried, whose skeletons were found accompanying the stones in question. As I understand, they were all found lying N. and S.; and, if I recollect rightly, the mode of placing the body E. and W. did not prevail till a much later period of the Christian Church.

"I am inclined, therefore, to conclude, that this had been the burial-place of the ancient monastery which Bede, in his life of St. Hilda, mentions, placed in the peninsula of Hartlepool, and founded about 640 by Bega, who was succeeded by St. Hilda, after whom the present fine old church, now in a lamentable state of dilapidation, is called.

"From the cross, I conceive they are Christian monuments; but I have not found that any translation has been made of the inscription."

The Rev. James Graves said that the drawings of the two cross slabs sent by the Dean of Leighlin showed a striking resemblance to several of the ancient Irish tombstones still existing at Clonmacnoise; and although the inscriptions were Runic, and the names Saxon, yet he had no doubt that the fashion of them was intrinsically Irish. He had laid the Dean's drawings before the celebrated Runic scholar, Professor Stephens, and had received the following reply:—

"Cheapinghaven, Denmark, Sept. 11, 1861.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in replying to your favour of the 4th inst., which has only just come to hand.

"The two curious Runic grave-stones to which you refer are well known to me. You will find information concerning them in 'Mr. J. M. Kemble, on the Runes of the Anglo-Saxons,' London, 1840 (from the 'Archæologia,' vol. xxviii. pp. 327-372), p. 20; but particularly in Mr. J. Gage's paper in the 'Archæologia,' London, vol. xxvi. p. 480, where there are also admirable fac-similes, which will be copied into my work.

"The inscriptions are in old-northern Runes, and are merely the names of the deceased. No. 1 in your letter is—

HILDIDRYÐ.

"No. 2 is—

HILDDIGYÐ.

"As yet I have not heard of anything having been found in Ireland bearing these Runes. Should any such find be made, I shall be most thankful for a photograph or other *exact fac-simile*. The late great find in Orkney is in later or Scandinavian Runes.

"As yet there is time enough for me to add anything such to my work,¹ though I have now gone to press.

"Have you heard of any Runic Bracteates having turned up in Ireland?

"It is a thousand pities that these monuments in old-northern Runes have been so wantonly and almost universally destroyed. They are inestimable for the elucidation of our noble old mother-tongue.

"With great respect, believe me faithfully yours,

"GEORGE STEPHENS.

"*Rev. J. Graves, M. R. I. A., Ireland.*

"P. S.—Both the above names are *feminines*. They were probably 'mynchens,' i. e. nuns."

The following papers were submitted to the Members:—

MAP OF THE CITY OF KILKENNY, CONSTRUCTED FROM ROCQUE'S SURVEY, 1757, THE ORDNANCE SURVEY, 1841, AND FROM PERSONAL INSPECTION OF THE RESPEC- TIVE LOCALITIES.

SHOWING THE DIRECTION AND APPROACHES OF THE ROADWAYS OF VARIOUS PERIODS IN THE SUBURBS, AND THE SITUATIONS AND NAMES OF MANY PLACES OF FORMER IMPORTANCE WITHIN THE CITY; DRAWN UP BY MR. JOHN HOGAN TO ILLUSTRATE THE FOLLOWING PAPER.

[It is necessary to observe here that the whole of this map is not drawn to a uniform scale. The plan of the city is faithfully reduced

¹ "The Old-Northern Runic Inscriptions of Scandinavia and England."